

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 120729
ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 EB-08 LAB-04 STR-07
AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00
FRB-01 OMB-01 CTME-00 /060 R

DRAFTED BY COMMERCE:AGAREL:AAM
APPROVED BY EB/TEX:WBREW
LABOR: IKRAMER (INFO)
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 120729

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, KS

SUBJECT: U.S.-KOREAN TEXTILE AGREEMENT - CLASSIFICATION
-- PROBLEM

REF: SEOUL 7537 (1977)

1. AN ORDER OF AN IMPORTER (H. ROSENTHAL CO., ST. PAUL, MINN.) FROM CHOIL INDUSTRIAL CO. (SEOUL) FOR 1200 SETS OF RAIN SUITS HAS BEEN HELD UP IN U.S. CUSTOMS SINCE MARCH 29 BECAUSE THE JACKETS WERE INCORRECTLY VISAED. THESE TWO PIECE MAN-MADE FIBER RAIN GARMENTS WERE VISAED UNDER CATEGORY 659. THE COMPONENT PARTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CLASSIFIED SEPARATELY SO THAT THE COATS ARE IN CATEGORIES 634 (MEN'S AND BOYS) OR 635 (WOMEN'S, GIRLS' OR INFANTS) AND THE PANTS ONLY IN CATEGORY 659. (IF IN CHIEF VALUE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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COTTON, SUCH GARMENTS WOULD BE CLASSIFIED AND CHARGED TO CATEGORIES 334, 335 AND 339.

2. WE ARE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED BECAUSE CHOIL HAS INFORMED ROSENTHAL THAT IT IS CONTINUING TO SUPPLY OTHER IMPORTERS THE SAME RAIN SUITS WITH THE SAME (INCORRECT 659) VISAS AND THE ROK HAS CONFIRMED THIS TO BE THE CORRECT CLASSIFI-

CATION.

3. THE CONFUSION OVER RAINCOAT CLASSIFICATION MAY BE PARTIALLY EXPLAINED BY U.S. TREATMENT FOR THAT ITEM ON A TEMPORARY ONE YEAR BASIS UNDER THE OLD AGREEMENT PER REFTEL. DURING 1977, KOREA VISAED THE SUITS IN THE OLD SYSTEM BASKET CATEGORY AND THE U.S. WAIVED THE VISA REQUIREMENT.

4. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF RAINCOAT CLASSIFICATION WITH COMMERCIAL ATTACHE LEE AT THE KOREAN EMBASSY AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DOING THE SAME WITH APPROPRIATE ROK OFFICIALS IN SEOUL. LEE REPORTS HE CABLED ROK REGARDING THE PROBLEM SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
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